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January 7, 2011

EXHIBIT 4
DATE Jan 13, 11
HB 15

Mike Murray,
Quality Schools Grant Administrator
301 South Park Suite 582
Helena, MT 159620-0549

Dear Mike,

I am sending his letter in support of the Montana Quality School Grants program. We have been actively involved in this program for the past two years, and the schools involved have seen tremendous benefits as a result of the program. The following are some of the improvements:

- New high efficiency mechanical and electrical equipment
- Comfort and air quality improvements
- Energy and utility savings
- Manpower and labor savings for over-worked maintenance staff
- One of the biggest challenges that Montana schools face is that the overwhelming majority of facilities are at least 40 years old. These schools have original mechanical and electrical equipment that are inefficient and beyond economical repair. Schools do not have the capital necessary for the initial investment to make these upgrades. Your program provides that "bridge" necessary to make these upgrades and the results the schools have seen are significant. In several cases, schools have experienced utility savings of over 50%. These savings have enabled districts to implement additional improvement projects, and allow them to become pro-active and preventative, versus reactive maintenance which may require more costly repairs on antiquated equipment.
- The Quality Schools Grant programs that we have been involved with have helped the schools of different sizes and diverse populations. These installations include the Miles City Schools, Colstrip Schools and the Cut Bank High School.

It may sound like a "cliché", but the greatest natural resource is our children. This program is an investment in the future of our facilities and kids, which has proven to pay dividends many times over in the future.

The Quality Schools Grant Program has a positive impact on these communities and we feel it is a necessary program to continue for the benefit of our kids and the communities in which they live.

Sincerely,